

What is claimed is:

1. A computerized method for creating a page for an application, the method comprising:
  - reading metadata for a database;
  - translating the metadata into a page definition language; and
  - outputting the page definition language.
2. The computerized method of claim 1, wherein reading metadata includes reading column definitions for the database.
3. The computerized method of claim 2, wherein reading column definitions includes reading a column name and a column data type.
4. The computerized method of claim 2, wherein reading column definitions includes reading a null allowable indicator.
5. The computerized method of claim 1, wherein reading meta-data includes reading constraint definitions for at least one column.
6. The computerized method of claim 1, wherein reading metadata includes reading the metadata from a file.
7. The computerized method of claim 1, wherein reading the metadata includes invoking an API function to read the metadata.
8. The computerized method of claim 1, wherein translating the metadata includes translating a database column type to a page description element type.

9. The computerized method of claim 1, wherein translating the metadata includes translating a foreign key reference to a multi-selectable user interface element.
10. The computerized method of claim 1, wherein translating the metadata includes translating at least one constraint.
11. The computerized method of claim 10, wherein the at least one constraint comprises a validation rule.
12. The computerized method of claim 10, wherein the at least one constraint comprises an integrity rule.
13. The computerized method of claim 1, wherein the database comprises a relational database.
14. The computerized method of claim 1, wherein the database comprises an object-oriented database.
15. The computerized method of claim 1, wherein the page definition language comprises a ColdFusion scripting language.
16. The computerized method of claim 1, wherein the page definition language comprises Hypertext Markup Language (HTML).
17. The computerized method of claim 1, wherein the page definition language comprises a programming language.

18. The computerized method of claim 17, wherein the programming language comprises a ColdFusion scripting language.

19. A computerized method for creating a page for an application, the method comprising:

- receiving a request for a web page;
- reading metadata for a database;
- translating the metadata into HTML defining the web page; and
- sending the web page to the requestor.

20. A computerized method for creating a page for an application, the method comprising:

- receiving a table identifier for a database;
- reading metadata for the table from the database;
- translating at least one column definition in the metadata into a ColdFusion scripting language;
- translating at least one constraint in the metadata into the ColdFusion scripting language; and
- outputting the ColdFusion scripting language to a page description file.

21. The computerized method of claim 20, wherein the database comprises a relational database.

22. A system for creating page descriptions, the system comprising:

- a database management system (DBMS) operable to manage a database, the database having metadata; and
- a metadata reader operable to read the metadata and translate the metadata into a page description language.

23. The system of claim 22, wherein the DBMS comprises a Sybase DBMS.
24. The system of claim 22, wherein the page description language comprises HTML.
25. The system of claim 22, wherein the page description language comprises a ColdFusion scripting language.
26. The system of claim 22, further comprising an application builder operable to read the page description language and generate a web page.
27. The system of claim 26, wherein the application builder comprises a ColdFusion system.
28. A computer system operable to generate a page based application, the computer system comprising:
  - at least one processor;
  - a memory coupled to the processor; and
  - an operating environment executed by the at least one processor from the memory, the operating environment comprising:
    - a database management system (DBMS) operable to manage a database, the database having metadata; and
    - a metadata reader operable to read the metadata and translate the metadata into a page description language.
29. The computer system of claim 28, wherein the DBMS comprises a Sybase DBMS.

30. The computer system of claim 28, wherein the page description language comprises HTML.
31. The computer system of claim 28, wherein the page description language comprises a ColdFusion scripting language
32. The computer system of claim 28, further comprising an application builder operable to read the page description language and generate a web page.
33. The computer system of claim 32, wherein the application builder comprises a ColdFusion system.
34. A computer-readable medium having computer executable instructions for performing a method for creating a page for an application, the method comprising:
  - reading metadata for a database;
  - translating the metadata into a page definition language; and
  - outputting the page definition language.
35. The computer-readable medium of claim 34, wherein reading metadata includes reading column definitions for the database.
36. The computer-readable medium of claim 35, wherein reading column definitions includes reading a column name and a column data type.
37. The computer-readable medium of claim 35, wherein reading column definitions includes reading a null allowable indicator.
38. The computer-readable medium of claim 34, wherein reading meta-data includes reading constraint definitions for at least one column.

39. The computer-readable medium of claim 34, wherein reading metadata includes reading the metadata from a file.

40. The computer-readable medium of claim 34, wherein reading the metadata includes invoking an API function to read the metadata.

41. The computer-readable medium of claim 34, wherein translating the metadata includes translating a database column type to a page description element type.

42. The computer-readable medium of claim 34, wherein translating the metadata includes translating a foreign key reference to a multi-selectable user interface element.

43. The computerized method of claim 34, wherein translating the metadata includes translating at least one constraint.

44. The computerized method of claim 43, wherein the at least one constraint comprises a validation rule.

45. The computerized method of claim 43, wherein the at least one constraint comprises an integrity rule.

46. The computer-readable medium of claim 34, wherein the database comprises a relational database.

47. The computer-readable medium of claim 34, wherein the database comprises an object-oriented database.

48. The computer-readable medium of claim 34, wherein the page definition language comprises a ColdFusion scripting language.
49. The computer-readable medium of claim 34, wherein the page definition language comprises Hypertext Markup Language (HTML).
50. A computer-readable medium having computer executable instructions for performing a method for creating a page for an application, the method comprising:  
receiving a request for a web page;  
reading metadata for a database;  
translating the metadata into HTML defining the web page; and  
sending the web page to the requestor.
51. A computer-readable medium having computer executable instructions for performing a method for creating a page for an application, the method comprising:  
receiving a table identifier for a database;  
reading metadata for the table from the database;  
translating at least one column definition in the metadata into a ColdFusion scripting language;  
translating at least one constraint in the metadata into the ColdFusion scripting language; and  
outputting the ColdFusion scripting language to a page description file.
52. The method of claim 51, wherein the database comprises a relational database.
53. A method for receiving a web page, the method comprising:  
issuing a request for a web page to a server, the request including a request for data from a database;  
reading metadata for the database;

translating the metadata into a web page description language;  
including the web page description language in the web page; and  
sending the web page.

54. The method of claim 53, wherein the web page description language comprises HTML.

55. The method of claim 53, wherein the web page description language comprises a ColdFusion scripting language.

56. The method of claim 53, wherein the database comprises a relational database.